

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page one, please replace paragraph [01] the following amended paragraph:

--[01] This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial Application No. 10/222,273, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/313,357 filed on August 17, 2001, and is related to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/313,176 filed August 17, 2001, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.—

Please replace paragraph [12] with the following amended paragraph:

-- [12] We have discovered a bimodal high density polyethylene composition that exhibits improved durability. The new composition comprises at least a low-molecular-weight (LMW) ethylene homopolymer component having a molecular weight distribution, MWD^L , of less than about 8 and a ~~homogeneous~~, high-molecular-weight (HMW) ethylene interpolymer component. ~~The composition is~~ Some compositions are characterized as having a bimodal molecular weight distribution and a ductile-brittle transition temperature, T_{db} , of less than -20°C . Preferably, the overall M_w/M_n (indicative of the molecular weight distribution or MWD) of the novel composition is relatively narrow, and the M_w/M_n of the LMW component is relatively narrow, or the MWD for both the LMW component and the HMW component is also relatively narrow, or the MWD of the each component is relatively narrow and completely distinct from one another. In some embodiments, the HMW component is characterized by a “reverse comonomer distribution.”--

Please replace paragraph [18] with the following amended paragraph:

[18] Embodiments of the invention provide a new polyethylene composition which can be used for making water or oil pipes and other products. The new composition comprises a

low-molecular-weight (LMW) ethylene homopolymer component and a high-molecular-weight (HMW) ethylene interpolymer component. The new composition is characterized by a relatively narrow bimodal molecular weight distribution. The bimodality of the molecular weight distribution of the new composition is due to the difference in the MWD of the LMW component and the HMW component. Preferably, the MWD of the LMW and HMW components individually is unimodal but is different and distinct from each other such that, when mixed, the resulting composition has an overall bimodal molecular weight distribution. The LMW ethylene homopolymer component has a molecular weight distribution, MWD^L , of less than about 8, ~~and~~ In some embodiments, the new composition is characterized as having a ductile-brittle transition temperature, T_{db} , of less than -20°C . In some embodiments, the HMW component is characterized by a substantially uniform comonomer distribution or a reverse comonomer distribution.